



THE

Marjoribanks

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LETTER

FOR AND ABOUT PEOPLE OF THE NAME, IN ALL ITS VARIATIONS - MARCHBANKS, MARCHBANK, MARSHBANK AND THE REST

US Marjoribanks Clan Gathering July 2021



The US annual Marjoribanks Family Gathering was convened by Secretary Caroline Morris on July 31, 2021 in the Green Valley Country Club, Greenville, South Carolina, USA with 27 family members and guests attending.

Caroline spoke of Laodicea Langston Springfield, an ancestor of several local Marchbanks family members and mother of 24. Kimberly Bruce then gave her research on Penelope Stout, a founder of the state of New Jersey. Kimberly's great grandmother Lula Jones Marchbanks is directly descended from Penelope Stout, who survived an Indian attack by hiding in a hollow log. Penelope died at 104 despite her wounds from Indian spears when she was young.

Jim Scott then presented his book on Highway 25, showing how the highway impacted Marchbanks lands and the County of Greenville. A lively discussion ensued. Caroline then read

out a greeting from the Chief Andrew Marjoribanks and asked those present to send any family news to Stuart and Patricia Baillie Strong for the clan newsletter. The family then gathered for group photos.

In closing, Alex Klaes read an excerpt from "How Green Was my Valley" by Richard Llewellyn and Patti Foy led the group singing "Blessed be the tie that Binds". Finally, Carol led the group on a tour round the Reedy River Cemetery.

Clan Chief Andrew Marjoribanks celebrates his 80th birthday

Andrew Marjoribanks, our Marjoribanks clan chief, celebrated his 80th birthday with family and friends at the Royal Gourock Yacht Club in Scotland in October. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves with a delicious buffet, entertaining speeches and enthusiastic dancing to a local folk band.



Andrew is on the left beside his wife Fiona.

The little girl in the white dress on the right is Andrew's youngest granddaughter Rosie Laishley.

Andrew and Fiona's three daughters Katie Laishley, Faith Sinclair and Kirsty Galbraith, their husbands and five granddaughters all joined in the fun. Andrew's nephew, Lt. Col. Alexander Marjoribanks, his wife and their three sons also joined their cousins.



Andrew with daughters Katie, Faith and Kirsty

For those who are not familiar with Andrew, he was born in South Africa during the war and grew up in the Sudan where his father William was Conservator of Forests in the Sudan Civil service. Andrew worked as an IT consultant in the civil service and in private companies before retiring. He lives with his wife Fiona in Greenock, Scotland.

Andrew is the chief and hereditary head of the clan. He traces his ancestry to the original owners of the Marjoribanks lands and is referred to as Andrew Marjoribanks of that Ilk. His great-great-great-great-great-great grandfather was Thomas Marjoribanks, the "Representer of Marjoribanks of that Ilk" whose arms were registered in 1673 and recognised by the Lord Lyon, King of Arms.

Andrew's personal coat of arms bears a gold

cushion with a clergyman and lawyer as supporters. The crest is a griffin. The Latin motto "Et custos et pugnax" stands for "Both a guardian and a fighter." However, Andrew and his brother John have jocularly referred to it as "Both custard and pudding"!

Andrew is a keen sportsman and cycles regularly, often passing his younger relatives. Recently, he helped crew an ocean-going yacht which travelled from Dorset up to Shetland in the north of Scotland, the Faroe Islands and then down to the Scilly Isles in the south of England.

Obituary – Frankie Philip Hightower



Frances (Frankie) Phillip Hightower, 96, sadly passed away on October 16, 2021. She was a longstanding and enthusiastic supporter of the Marjoribanks Clan Society. Her grandfather was Peter C. Marchbanks. She is survived by her daughter, Carol H. Leake who is the Treasurer of the US Marjoribanks Clan Society.

Frankie was an accomplished musician, teaching piano and performing for countless weddings, celebrations, and funerals spanning over eight decades. She was organist at Reedy River Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina, USA, for many years. Frankie founded Friends of the Reedy River Baptist Church Cemetery and tirelessly promoted the cemetery's significance.

Frankie ran the William K. Hightower Insurance Agency with her husband William K. Hightower, Jr. from 1957 to 2014.

The Marjoribanks DNA Genealogy Project



We encourage our members who have Marjoribanks, Marchbanks, or similar names in their family tree to take a DNA test for genealogy purposes. The Marjoribanks DNA genealogy project, ably lead by James Green III, would really like more people to join.

For those who are unfamiliar with DNA genealogy, the two tests that we concentrate on are:

- 1) the Y-DNA test
- 2) the autosomal DNA test

The Y-DNA test is extremely useful in helping trace the male genealogy back many centuries along the Marjoribanks line. However it can only be taken by males and is only offered by one company - Family Tree DNA. Not all Marjoribanks stem from the same original source. We would love to be able to identify the different lines.

The autosomal DNA test, on the other hand, can be taken by both females and males and can help trace your cousins and your genealogy back a couple of centuries. It is offered by several companies such as Ancestry and Family Tree DNA (called Family Finder) and is cheaper.

If you would like to join the project, please contact James Green III at jwgreeniii@gmail.com.

'Plumfield,' 11 Marchbanks Drive, Greenville, South Carolina



Ann Marchbanks Hughes and her husband Mike inherited the house at 11 Marchbanks Drive in Greenville, SC from Ann's aunt and uncle, Inez and Frank Marchbanks. Ann has many fond memories of visiting it and her uncle and aunt as a child. Ann's great-grandparents, Peter Cauble Marchbanks (1844-1932) and Nancy Margaret Collins Batson Marchbanks (1843-1921) built the house in about 1865.

In the year 2000 when Ann and Mike moved in, Mike (a builder by trade) set about shoring up the foundations and fully renovating the house, using as many of the original walls as possible. They named the house 'Plumfield' after the large Chickasaw plum tree in the garden and also in memory of Aunt March leaving her house to her niece Jo in 'Little Women'.

The home has been rented to families and since 2018, Ann and Mike have been restoring the barn to accommodate some locally rescued farm animals. Their home can be rented on [Airbnb.com](https://www.airbnb.com). searching Greenville, SC, or Travelers Rest.

Ann Marchbanks Hughes of Greenville, SC is a second cousin to Carole Leake, our clan society secretary. Anne's lineage from Stephen Perry Marchbanks (the oldest grave in the Reedy River church yard) is as follows: Stephen Perry Marchbanks - Peter Cauble Marchbanks - Frank Marchbanks - Rev. John Marchbanks - Ann Marchbanks Hughes.

Marjoribanks Rootsweb is now Marjoribanks io

The former Marjoribanks Rootsweb mailing list site has been discontinued by Ancestry. The Marjoribanks mailing list is now hosted by groups.io (groups.io/g/Marjoribanks/topics).

If you would like to become a member of this mailing list site, please contact the mailing list site manager Bill Jackson at wpj@translaw.com.

A Marjoribanks shipped to Australia as a convict?



A possible relative, Luke Marjoram, has been in touch wondering whether he could be related to the Marjoribanks clan. Luke lives in Australia and is descended from a father and son convicted of breaking and entering before being deported to Australia. His family originated in or around Dumfriesshire in Scotland (which is where many Marjoribanks originated). He asks if Marjoram might be a variant of Marjoribanks?

John Marjoribanks, our clan genealogist thinks that it's perfectly possible that officers responsible for documenting convicts on arrival in Australia would be brusque enough to write down Marjoram rather than bother to get the name right!

Our Marjoribanks DNA project leader James Green III has suggested to Luke that he take the Y-DNA and autosomal DNA tests.

Do any of our readers have any information that could help Luke?

The Marjoribanks Letter

The Marjoribanks Letter, is free to members of the Clan Marjoribanks Society. Annual Membership fees are due on 1st January each year and are as follows:

Annual Fees	Individual	Family
The United Kingdom	£8.00	£15.00
The United States	\$12.00 (U.S.)	\$22.00
Canada	\$15.00 (Can.)	\$28.00
Australia	\$16.00 (Aus.)	\$29.00
New Zealand	\$16.00 (N.Z.)	\$29.00

Please pay fees by standing order. Otherwise you can send annual membership fees to either:

Carol Leake,
Clan Marjoribanks Society US Treasurer
1169 North Main Street
Fountain Inn, SC 29644, U.S.A
(E-mail: carol.leake@yahoo.com)

or John Marjoribanks
Clan Marjoribanks Society UK Treasurer
20 Latches Walk, Axminster, EX13 5 DQ, UK
(E-mail: john@marjoribanks.com)
UK account: Bank of Scotland 801351 - 06001374

If you know of Marjoribankses, Marchbankses, Marshbankses, Banks or others - who would like to receive the Letter, please send their e-mails and postal addresses (in block capitals) to :

Caroline Morris,
Clan Marjoribanks Secretary,
233 Merrifield Drive
Greenville, SC 29615, USA
(E-mail: carolinewattsmorris@gmail.com)

We normally distribute the Marjoribanks Newsletter via the Internet in PDF file format. If requested, we can send a printed copy of the newsletter by post.

The Marjoribanks Clan web page can be found on the Internet at www.marjoribanks.net. The Marjoribanks DNA project can be found at www.familytreedna.com/public/Marjoribanks.

Clan Chief: Andrew Marjoribanks
President: Patricia Baillie Strong
Secretary: Caroline Morris
Genealogist and UK Treasurer: John Marjoribanks
US treasurer: Carol Leake
US editor: Lynda Flowe
DNA Genealogy: James Green III
Newsletter publisher: Stuart Baillie Strong
Webmaster: Jonathan Baillie Strong
Social Media Secretary: Katie Laishley